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LAUNCESTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

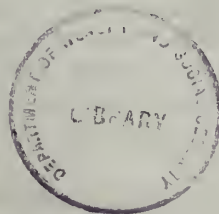
of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1968

Health Area Office,
Launceston,
Cornwall.

WILLIAM PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health





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Health Area Office,
Launceston.

To: The Chairman and Councillors of the
Launceston Rural District

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Bryant and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1968.

The vital statistics show that live births numbered 110, an increase of 10 over the number for 1967, while deaths numbered 70, four fewer than in 1967. This gives a favourable balance of births over deaths, with 40 more births than deaths. The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population, 7070, was 20 more than for the previous year. Heart disease, cancer and cerebrovascular disease, in that order, headed the list of causes of death. One stillbirth and two infant deaths were recorded.

It will be noticed that the Mortality Table on page 3 differs from the familiar table previously given. This is because the Registrar-General now classifies deaths in accordance with a list of 65 headings in place of the 36 headings formerly used. Due to the length of the new list, headings to which no deaths have been assigned are not included in the table. A change of terminology may also be noted in some of the causes of death. Thus "vascular lesions of the nervous system" now appear as "cerebrovascular disease", while "coronary disease, angina" comes under the heading of "ischaemic heart disease."

The incidence of notifiable infectious disease during the year continued to be low. On 1st October, 1968, the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968, and the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1968, came into operation. These made certain changes in the infectious diseases required to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health, and in the procedure connected with notification.

Improvement in the environmental circumstances of the district continued during the year, with the completion of the schemes of sewerage and sewage disposal for Lewannick and Polyphant, and for Langore, while the scheme for Higherland was almost complete by the end of the year. Improvements were made to existing disposal arrangements elsewhere, and the preparation of schemes to serve other parts of the district was in hand.

I wish to record my thanks to Mr. T.C.J. White, the Council's Public Health Inspector, for his valuable co-operation in all aspects of our work together, and in the preparation of this report, the bulk of the information concerning the sanitary circumstances of the District having been provided by him. To Mr. G.L. Davey, the Clerk of the Council, Mr. F.R. Thorne, the Council's Surveyor, and the Council's other officers, I am indebted for much willing help. I am grateful to the General Medical Practitioners for their co-operation.

The interest of the Council and, in particular, of the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee is once more gratefully acknowledged.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM PATERSON

Medical Officer of Health

LAUNCESTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health & Housing Committee

Cllr. R. T. Kneebone - Chairman
Cllr. W. D. Allin - Vice-Chairman

Cllr. A. Barriball
" F. Broad
" Mrs. E. di Bryant
" E. C. Chudleigh
" T. Dodd
" G. A. Facks-Martin
" J. Harvey
" L. Hooper
" Mrs. O. M. Leask

Cllr. J. A. Mann
" W. J. Palmer
" D. E. Phillips
" H. S. Sandercock
" W. R. Sandercock
" J. B. Statton
" J. N. Stephens
" A. L. Stephens
" T. R. Uglow

Sewerage Committee

Cllr. L. L. Pooley - Chairman
Cllr. O. C. G. Harris - Vice-
Chairman

Cllr. F. Broad
" J. T. Carpenter
" J. H. Cory
" C. J. Cowling
" E. J. Dingle
" W. R. L. Hawke
" H. R. Jones
" W. D. Neville
" D. E. Phillips
" W. J. Rowland
" A. L. Stephens
" W. J. Uglow

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Public Health Officers of the Local Authority

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

W. PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

also holds appointments of :

Medical Officer of Health : Launceston Borough Council
 Bude/Stratton Urban District Council
 Stratton Rural District Council
 Camelford Rural District Council

Health Area Medical Officer, Area No. 6 Cornwall County Council

School Medical Officer - Cornwall County Council

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

T. C. J. WHITE, M.A.P.H.I.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	85,267
Population	7,070
No. of separate dwellings occupied	2,373
Rateable value 1968	£117,540
Product of ld. rate at 31.3.68	£453. 14.5.

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 estimated population</u>
Legitimate	102	55	47	15.6
Illegitimate	8	2	6	
<u>Stillbirths</u>	1	-	1	9-
				(Rate per 1,000 total births)
<u>Deaths</u> (all causes)	70	36	34	9.9

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :

Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	}	N I L
Other Puerperal Causes		

Infant Mortality (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births)

2	1	1	18.18
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	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	7	9	16
Measles (all ages)		N I L	
Whooping Cough (all ages)		N I L	
Diarrhoea (under 2)		N I L	

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (in acres) 85,267. The district is essentially agricultural. Mining, formerly an important industry, is no longer in active operation, but quarrying, on a commercial scale, is carried on in the District. Industry otherwise is largely connected with agriculture, but there is a factory producing articles of plastic clothing.

Population The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population was 7,070, an increase of 20 over the previous year. The "natural increase" of the population is the excess of births over deaths. In 1968, there were 40 more births than deaths.

Deaths The total number of deaths assigned to the district for the year was 70 compared with 74 in 1967. The crude death rate based on the mid-year population was 9.9 compared with 10.5 in the previous year. The following table has been compiled for comparison with previous years :-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Recorded Rate</u>
1964	83	46	37	13.926
1965	64	38	26	10.738
1966	89	45	44	13.165
1967	74	38	36	10.5
1968	70	36	34	9.9

In order to compare the mortality in the district with the mortality for England and Wales, it is necessary to make a correction to allow for the difference in age and sex distribution of the two populations. This is done by applying to the crude death rate of the District an "Area Comparability Factor" which has been estimated by the Registrar General as 0.94 for the District.

The Standardised Death Rate, therefore, is 9.3 which may be compared with that of 11.9 (provisional) for England and Wales.

Births The number of live births assigned to this District was 110 compared with 100 in 1967. The rate per thousand of the population was 15.6. When the Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor for births (1.10) is applied to this figure, the Standardised Birth Rate of 17.16 for this District compares with 16.9 (provisional) for England and Wales.

Stillbirths - There was one stillbirth in 1968.

Illegitimate Births - There were eight illegitimate births assigned to the District during the year. Shown as a proportion of the total number of live births, this represents 7 per cent.

Maternal Mortality - There was no death connected with childbirth during the year.

Infant Mortality - There were two infant deaths in 1968.

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>
F	12 hours	Prematurity
M	2 months	Pulmonary Embolism

NOTE :

VITAL STATISTICS

It is important that too much weight should not be attached to small variations in these rates from one year to the other, particularly where relatively small populations are involved - attention should rather be paid to the trend of these rates over a period of years.

MORTALITY TABLE

Classified in accordance with 65 headings based on the
Abbreviated List of the International Statistical
Classifications of Disease, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1967

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm - stomach	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm - breast	-	2	2
Leukaemia	1	-	1
Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	4	6	10
Anaemias	-	1	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	1	1
Hypertensive disease	2	2	4
Ischaemic heart disease	9	8	17
Other forms of heart disease	3	2	5
Cerebrovascular disease	4	6	10
Other diseases of circulatory system	1	-	1
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Bronchitis and emphysema	1	-	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	-	1	1
Congenital anomalies	1	-	1
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	-	1	1
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	1	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents	-	1	1
All other accidents	2	-	2
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	2	-	2
	<hr/>		
	36	34	70
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GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

General Medical Services

General medical services under Part IV of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are provided by medical practitioners resident in the district and in adjoining districts, all of whom undertake maternity medical services.

County Council Services

- I Health Department. The County Council is the local health authority for the purposes of Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, and provides the following services in the district :-
- (a) Midwifery and Home Nursing. Nurse-midwives are provided to attend general nursing and midwifery cases in the home.
 - (b) Health Visiting. Health Visitors are available to give advice on health matters in the home or at the clinic. Originally concerned with the care of mothers and young children, which is still their basic function, they are increasingly concerned with other age groups, particularly the aged. Some health visitors combine this work with general nursing and midwifery. All act also as school nurses.
 - (c) Child Welfare Centre. A Child Welfare Clinic is held at the Health Clinic, Launceston, three times each month.
 - (d) Dental Clinic. Priority dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children is available at the Dental Clinic at the Health Clinic, Launceston.
 - (e) Vaccination and Immunisation. Facilities for vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, and for poliomyelitis vaccination, are provided at the Child Welfare Clinic or by the supply of materials to the family doctor.
 - (f) Home Help Service. Home helps are employed to provide domestic help for households in certain circumstances, a charge being made for this service according to the means of the person concerned.
 - (g) Ambulance Service. A service of ambulances for the conveyance of sick, accident and emergency cases is provided. For sitting cases, utility sitting case vehicles are used. When appropriate, some such cases are carried by the Hospital Car Service, a Voluntary organisation. Day-to-day administration of the service is carried out from the Ambulance Control, Bodmin.

- (h) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care. A full-time tuberculosis health visitor is provided for the care and after-care of tuberculous persons. District nurses are available to assist in the treatment of such persons when required by the Chest Physician or family doctor. Routine tuberculin testing and, if necessary, B.C.G. vaccination (i.e. vaccination against tuberculosis) is provided for senior school children.

Certain special investigations are carried out in other types of illness by district health visitors, while health education is carried out by the County's Medical and Nursing staff.

- (i) Mental Health. The County Council has certain responsibilities in connection with the ascertainment of mental ill-health and mental deficiency, with the provision of statutory supervision, etc. for mental defectives living in the community, and with the provision of after-care following treatment for mental illness. The Mental Welfare Officer for the district works from the Health Area Office, Launceston.

II Education Department. As local education authority, the County Council is responsible for the School Health Service, which provides the following :-

Periodic Medical Inspection of pupils
Cleanliness Surveys of pupils
Dental Inspection and treatment of pupils
Ascertainment of handicapped pupils in need of
special education
Treatment Clinic, Health Clinic, Launceston : -

Dental Clinic, twice weekly

Child Guidance, by arrangement

- III Welfare Department. This service is concerned with the welfare of the aged, and with that of various categories of handicapped persons. It is concerned also with the provision of temporary accommodation in certain circumstances for persons in urgent need thereof. The Welfare Officer for the district works from the Health Area Office, Launceston.

Hospital Services

The South Western Regional Hospital Board is the hospital authority for the area.

Launceston Hospital provides in-patient and out-patient facilities in the district. Patients are referred also to hospitals in Plymouth and elsewhere. Cases of infectious disease are admitted to the Scott Hospital, Plymouth, and tuberculosis patients to Didworthy Chest Hospital or Tehidy Hospital. Mental hospital accommodation is provided by St. Lawrence's Hospital and Laninval House, Bodmin, and Moorfields Hospital, Ivybridge, Devon. An Orthopaedic Clinic is held twice monthly at the Health Clinic, Launceston, and a Physiotherapy Clinic at Tavistock Hospital. The Chest Clinic is held at Launceston Hospital. An Ophthalmic Clinic for school and pre-school children is held periodically at the Launceston Health Clinic. A Specialist Ante-natal Clinic is held in Launceston each week.

Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratories at Plymouth and Truro to which specimens for bacteriological examination are submitted.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLIES

The East Cornwall Water Board serve the district with the exception of the parishes of Boyton, North Petherwin and Werrington which receive their water from the North Devon Water Board.

The East Cornwall Water Board laid 750 linear yards of 4" diameter main from Canworthy Water to Fonstone. 4,000 linear yards of 12", 5,800 linear yards of 9", 1,700 yards of 6" and 352 yards of 4" main have been laid between the Bastreet Works and the Windmill reservoir within the Borough of Launceston.

The same Board also extended their main at Venterdon by 80 yards and by 413 yards at various points in the parish of South Petherwin. 68 new connections were provided by the Board.

The North Devon Water Board provided 10 new connections during the year, two in the parish of Boyton, four at North Petherwin and four in Werrington parish.

A total of 1,241 properties are provided with connections to the public main supply. Of this total 22 properties have standpipes.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>No. of properties connected</u>
Altarnun	157
Boyton	10
Egloskerry	54
Lawhitton	30
Lewannick	65
Lezant	68
North Hill	139
St. Stephens	35
St. Thomas	65
South Petherwin	166
Stokeclimsland	261
Tremaine	4
Warbstow	66
Werrington	59
North Petherwin	49
Tresmeer	8
Treneglos	5

WATER SAMPLES

Public Supply Samples

148 samples were taken for bacteriological analysis from the following public supplies, all of which are chlorinated.

	<u>Samples taken</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Altarnun	15	14	1
Bastreet	80	64	16
Bolventor	11	11	-
Tregadillett	24	16	8
Venterdon	1	1	-
Warbstow	12	11	1
South Petherwin	5	5	-
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Total	148	122	26
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Nine samples from the seven bore hole supplies were subjected to chemical analysis. Each sample proved to be of suitable quality for a public supply. Water from the Tregadillett and Warbstow sources contained amounts of iron which might possibly be sufficient to give rise to complaints of discolouration in a public supply.

Private Supplies

34 samples of water were taken for bacteriological analysis from individual private supplies. 20 samples proved to be bacteriologically satisfactory and 14 were unsatisfactory. Advice and help is given where a supply appears unsatisfactory in an effort to overcome adverse conditions. Individual domestic filters have been incorporated on several private water systems and in each case subsequent samples from the supply have proved satisfactory. A sample of water is taken as a matter of routine following the receipt of Standard Improvement Grant applications where the property concerned is not connected to the public main water supply.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES

Modern sewerage and sewage disposal facilities are available in the following communities :-

Altarnun and Five Lanes
Trewint
South Petherwin and Daws House
Stokeclimsland and Venterdon
North Hill
Coads Green
Middlewood
Lawhitton

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES (Cont.)

Trebullett
Egloskerry
Langore
Lewannick and Polyphant including Hicks Mill
Trebursye

Lewannick and Polyphant Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal to serve Lewannick and Polyphant, together with properties situated at Hicks Mill, which started in November, 1966, was completed in July, 1968 by the inclusion of the Polyphant and Hicks Mill section into the main gravity system.

Langore Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The construction of this scheme was completed at the end of July, 1968, and connections into the resultant public sewer were made from August onwards.

Coads Green Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

As the existing septic tank at the disposal works was overloaded, a new double compartment tank was built during the year and brought into operation in November.

Higherland Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The scheme of sewerage to serve Higherland and Old Mill in the parish of Stokeclimsland was started in May and at the end of the year was nearing completion. It is anticipated that the system will be in use at the end of January, 1969.

Trebursye Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

This scheme originally served the "Old Tree" Maternity Home, but now serves the hamlet and the public conveniences which are sitad on the main A.30 highway. In July the works were taken over from the Hospital Management Committee and are now operated and maintained by the Council.

North Petherwin Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The enquiry into the necessity for this scheme was held on 27th September, 1967, and the need for the scheme on public health grounds accepted by the Ministry. Owing to prevailing adverse economic conditions, authority to invite tenders was not received from the Ministry during the year. This authority was granted on 7th January, 1969.

Tresmeer

The Council acquired six dwellings from British Rail at Tresmeer. The Engineer and Surveyor prepared a scheme of improvement for the six properties and constructed a small sewage disposal works intended mainly to serve these houses. The improvements to the properties and the sewage disposal works were completed during the year.

The execution of the Council's programme of sewerage and sewage disposal is the responsibility of the Engineer and Surveyor, who was engaged in the preparation of schemes for Warbstow, Tregadillett and Yeolmbridge during the year.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Trebursye and Altarnun. The public conveniences at Trebursye and Altarnun are worthwhile amenities. The former are situated in a large lay-by on the main A.30 trunk road some two miles from Launceston and fulfil a real need. The conveniences in Altarnun cater for village and tourist needs and blend well with their surroundings.

Stokeclimsland. Owing to financial restrictions and difficulty in obtaining a suitable site, this project has been deferred.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

The Council do not employ a rodent operator. Advice on the treatment of infestation is given upon receipt of complaint. Every assistance is given by the Field Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, whose co-operation is appreciated.

The refuse tip is baited regularly for rats and the rodent population kept as low as possible.

Five complaints of rat infestation in domestic premises were received. In each case a visit was made and advice given on disinfection techniques.

THE CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960

There are two multiple caravan sites within the district. One is a residential site whose drainage arrangements leave much to be desired. The site is situated at Tregadillett where the Council are hoping to provide a public sewer.

The other multiple caravan site caters for tourist needs and also provides chalet accommodation. All the appropriate facilities are provided.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The Council employ a Contractor to collect household refuse along specified routes at weekly intervals. In April the area covered by this service was extended to cover a further 94 properties. A monthly collection of litter from all the bins sited in roadside lay-byes is also undertaken. Twice weekly collections from bins along the A.30 trunk road were undertaken during the holiday season.

The Council operate two refuse tips one of which is sited about two miles from Launceston and the other on land belonging to the Duchy of Cornwall in the parish of Stokeclimsland.

The net cost of collecting and disposing of refuse, together with the hire of mechanical equipment to work on the refuse tips is approximately 30/- per ton which is about half the national average for this service in rural districts in England and Wales.

HOUSING

Local Authority owned houses	175
Local Authority houses completed in 1968	Nil
Private enterprise houses completed in 1968	26

HOUSING ACT 1957

1. Houses in Clearance Areas demolished	2
2. Individual unfit houses demolished	1
3. Unfit houses closed	7
4. Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied:-	
(a) After informal action	19
(b) After formal notice under the Public Health Act 1936	Nil
(c) After formal notice under Sections 9 or 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	Nil

OVERCROWDING

There are no known cases of statutory overcrowding.

RENT ACT 1957

No certificates of disrepair were requested.

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACTS 1959 and 1964

The Council do not offer Discretionary Grants.

STANDARD IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Schemes submitted during 1968	48
Schemes formally approved during 1968	36
Schemes withdrawn during 1968	1
Schemes refused	3
Schemes requiring amendment or further information	8
Schemes completed in 1968	42
Number of payments authorised in 1968	45
Amount of grant authorised in 1968	£7,500.13.5d.
Total number of grants offered	370
Total number of grants completed	292
Total value of grants paid	£42,591.16.1d.
Total number of water closets provided	283
Total number of baths provided	291
Total number of lavatory basins provided	287
Total number of hot water systems provided	284
Total number of ventilated larders provided	169

Of the 45 grants paid in 1968, 26 were for owner/occupied properties and 19 for tenanted dwellings.

The average cost per property in 1968 was £426 and the average grant £160.13.7d. showing an average decrease of £18 grant when compared with 1967.

ICE CREAM HEAT TREATMENT REGULATIONS

There is one ice cream factory in the district from which regular samples are taken. Of the 11 samples taken during the year 10 received the provisional grade 1 and one sample grade 3. This one unsatisfactory sample resulted following a mechanical breakdown in the freezing apparatus.

The samples are taken to the laboratory in a purpose made insulated container which has proved to be very satisfactory in use.

27 premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 for the sale of ice cream.

MILK SUPPLIES

Brucella Abortus

By an arrangement with the County Medical Officer, samples of raw milk from producer-retailers in the area are taken by the County Public Health Inspector, and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Truro, for examination. Bulk samples are first subjected to the Milk Ring Test, and, if positive, samples from the individual cows in the herd are submitted for culture for brucella abortus.

The results given below refer only to individual samples submitted for culture.

(i)	<u>Number of samples of raw milk examined</u>	129
(ii)	<u>Number of positive samples found</u>	4
(iii)	<u>Action taken in respect of positive samples</u>	

These samples came from the herds of four producer-retailers. In two of these herds, a notice under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, was served on each producer-retailer, prohibiting the sale of the raw milk to the public. These notices remained in force at the end of the year.

In the third herd in which positive samples were found, the producer-retailer spontaneously and voluntarily ceased retailing and surrendered his producer-retailer's licence as soon as he was informed of the result of the tests, and no further action was necessary.

The fourth herd was already the subject of a notice under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, served at the end of 1967. 15 samples were taken in successive series in connection with this herd. As all samples were negative on culture for brucella abortus, the notice under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, was lifted and the sale of raw milk to the public was resumed. Seven subsequent individual samples from the herd were negative on culture, and two sets of bulk samples, taken after these, were negative to the Milk Ring Test.

FOOD PREMISES

There are in the district :-

Cafes, snack bars and restaurants	14
Butcher's shops	4
Grocers	27
No. of visits to food premises	33
Informal notices served	7

KNACKER'S YARD

There is one Knacker's Yard in the district whose licence excludes the slaughter of horses.

MEAT INSPECTION AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are three slaughterhouses in the district. Two are large abattoirs which slaughter for the wholesale market. The third slaughterhouse serves the needs of a small butcher.

The overall throughput has remained virtually steady, the variation between the figures for 1967 and 1968 being less than one half per cent.

A one hundred per cent meat inspection service is provided by Veterinary Surgeons at the two larger slaughterhouses and by the Council's Public Health Inspector at the small slaughterhouse.

Details of the animals slaughtered and inspected are set out in the table attached to this report (Table IV).

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 1964

Eight dealers are currently registered.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Total number of factories with power	25
Total number of factories without power	4
Outworkers	Nil
Works of Engineering Construction	4

CLASSIFICATION OF FACTORIES

Agricultural Food stuffs	5
Motor Vehicle Repairs	5
Engineers and agricultural implements	4
Abattoirs	2
General Smithing	1
Concrete Block making	1
Joinery	4
Ice Cream Manufacture	1
Saw Mills	1
Poultry Appliances	1
Scrap Merchants	2
Clothing	1
Knacker	1

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Act are attached to this report in the manner required by Circular 1/69 of the Department of Health and Social Security.

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

<u>Registration existing at the end of the year</u>	
Offices	3
Retail shops	4
Wholesale shops and warehouses	Nil
Catering establishments open to the public	3
Fuel storage depots	<u>Nil</u>
Total	10

ANALYSIS BY WORKPLACE OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN
REGISTERED PREMISES AT END OF YEAR

Offices	9
Retail Shops	11
Catering Establishments	16
Canteens	Nil
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Total	36 (of whom 20 are females)
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Six inspections were made of registered premises during the year. No accidents were reported.

In order to avoid duplication of labour, four premises are inspected by the Factory Inspector only, where otherwise both he and the Public Health Inspector would make separate inspections. The co-operation of the Factory Inspector is appreciated.

THE LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATION 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the district.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The infectious diseases which are statutorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health are the following :- Cholera, plague, relapsing fever, typhus, smallpox, acute encephalitis, acute meningitis, acute poliomyelitis, anthrax, amoebic dysentery, bacillary dysentery, diphtheria, infective jaundice, leprosy, leptospirosis, malaria, measles, ophthalmia neonatorum, paratyphoid fever, typhoid fever, scarlet fever, tetanus, tuberculosis, whooping cough, yellow fever and food poisoning.

The monthly incidence of infectious disease is shown in Table III.

The Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968 and the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1968, both of which came into operation on 1st October, 1968, made certain changes in the list of infectious diseases notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health. Some diseases, formerly subject to this procedure, were omitted i.e. erysipelas, acute primary pneumonia, acute influenzal pneumonia and puerperal pyrexia. Membranous croup, which is a form of diphtheria, although omitted by name, will still be covered by the general term "diphtheria". "Meningococcal infectiou" also omitted by name, is covered by "acute meningitis", which also includes this acute infection when caused by other organisms. Leptospirosis (a form of jaundice caused by a group of germs transmitted by certain animals e.g. rats and dogs), tetanus (lockjaw), and yellow fever are introduced for the first time. Yellow fever, an acute and serious infectious disease of certain areas of the tropics, transmitted to man by the bite of a type of mosquito, is not a disease which will be acquired in this country, but the speed of air travel makes it possible that the first signs of the disease may appear in a traveller from an infected region several days after arrival in this country. Dysentery becomes notifiable in its two distinct forms, amoebic, usually found in tropical and subtropical climates, and bacillary, the common variety in this country.

The remainder of the diseases on the list are unchanged. Food poisoning which was notifiable by virtue of Section 26 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, remains notifiable by the provisions of Section 48 of the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968, which repealed the relevant section of the Food and Drugs Act.

Smallpox. No case was notified during the year, in the course of which 191 vaccinations and 27 re-vaccinations were carried out in the whole of the County Council's Health Area No. 6. It is not now possible to give these figures for individual county districts, owing to a new method of notifying such vaccinations. This applies also to the figures for vaccination against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, poliomyelitis and measles, given below.

Diphtheria. No case of diphtheria was notified during the year. 537 children in the Health Area received a complete course of immunisation during the year, the triple antigen against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus being used in all cases. 58 children received reinforcing injections, the diphtheria-tetanus vaccine being used in these cases.

Measles. Five cases of this disease were notified, two in January, two in March and one in August.

During the year, the Ministry of Health introduced a scheme of vaccination against this disease, in order to attempt to forestall the bi-ennial epidemic expected. Vaccination was offered in the first instance to susceptible children between the ages of 4 and 7 years, and this was later extended to include such children up to the age of 11 years. The total number vaccinated in the whole of the Health Area during the year was 371.

Vaccination against measles is later to be extended to include non-immune children in the age-groups 2 - 4 years and 11 - 15 years, and subsequently will be offered as a routine procedure to all children early in their second year.

Whooping Cough One case of this infection was notified in June.

Poliomyelitis No case of this infection was notified during the year, in the course of which 664 persons in the Health Area received a complete course of oral vaccination, and a further 294 a reinforcing dose.

Puerperal Pyrexia This is defined as any feverish condition occurring in a woman in whom a temperature of 100.4°F. or more has occurred within fourteen days after childbirth or miscarriage.

Three cases were notified during the year - one in March, one in April and one in August.

The condition ceased to be notifiable on 1st October, 1968, as explained above.

Food Poisoning. No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

Tuberculosis

	<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>	
	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non-Pul</u>	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non-Pul.</u>
Cases on Register 31.12.67	8	2	7	3
No. of cases notified during the year	-	-	-	-
Cases restored	-	-	-	-
Inward Transfers	-	-	-	-
Cases Removed	1	-	-	-
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total on Register 31.12.68	7	2	7	3
	<hr/>		<hr/>	

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

The Regional Hospital Board is responsible for treatment of tuberculosis patients and the County Council for the prevention of spread of the disease and after care of the patients.

Out-patients and contacts are seen by the Chest Physician (Dr. Dawson) at the Chest Clinic at Launceston Hospital. The County Council Tuberculosis Health Visitor attends the Clinic, follows up the patients in their homes, traces contacts and sources of infection and thus acting as a most valuable essential "Liaison Officer" between the curative and preventive services, bridges a most alarming administrative gap.

All susceptible contacts of known cases are offered B.C.G. Vaccination and most avail themselves of this method of protection.

The scheme for B.C.G. Vaccination of susceptible children of secondary school age was continued by the County Council during the year, again with a good response.

OTHER DISEASES

Cancer of the Lung. During 1968, out of a total of 16 deaths from all forms of cancer, two deaths, one male and one female, were due to cancer of the lung. This brings the total of deaths from this cause in the district since 1949 to 20 male and three female deaths. During the same period, there have been 116 male and 118 female deaths from all forms of cancer.

Cancer of the Cervix. The County Council's Cervical Cytology Clinic at Launceston continued to operate during the year.

Women between the ages of 30 and 55 years are accepted for this form of examination. The clinic at Launceston serves the whole of the Health Area, and beyond. During the year, 253 specimens were submitted to the laboratory. No cases of the pre-cancerous stage of the disease, nor of established cancer of the cervix, were discovered, but a number of minor conditions were identified. As a copy of the laboratory report is sent to the patient's general practitioner, he is made aware of these findings, and can arrange treatment, if required.

TABLE ITUBERCULOSISAge and Sex distribution of cases and deaths - 1968

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Pul.</u>		<u>Other</u>		<u>Pul.</u>		<u>Other</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE IIVITAL STATISTICS

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>POPULATION (Estimated)</u>	<u>BIRTHS</u>		<u>DEATHS</u>			
		<u>Number</u>	<u>Crude Rate</u>	<u>Under 1 year</u>		<u>All ages</u>	
				<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1964	5,960	97	16.275	1	10.309	83	13.926
1965	5,960	98	16.44	-	-	64	10.738
1966	6,760	82	12.13	3	36.58	89	13.165
1967	7,050	100	14.2	3	30	74	10.5
1968	7,070	110	15.6	2	18	70	9.9

TABLE IIIMonthly Incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Measles	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
	2	-	3	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	9

[illegible]

TABLE V

Classified Visits and Inspections made by the
Public Health Inspector

Food and Drugs Act	17
Infectious Diseases	2
Public Health Act	17
Drainage and Nuisances	132
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	6
Slaughterhouses, Meat Inspection & Food Premises	93
Milk and Dairies	Nil
Improvement Grants	251
Caravan Sites	10
Rodent Control	20
Housing Act	69
Refuse Disposal	71
Sewers and sewerage	45
Water Supplies	44
Factories Act	Nil
Miscellaneous	14
	<hr/>
Total	791
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APPENDIX

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
Factories Act, 1961.

Part 1 of the Act

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provision as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	25	-	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' Premises)	4	-	-	-
Total	33	-	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (Section 1)					
Overcrowding (Section 2)					
Unreasonable temperature (Section 3)					
Inadequate Ventilation (Section 4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (Section 6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7)			N I L		
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective					
(c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to outwork)					
Total					

PART VIII of the Act

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of outworkers in August list re- quired by Section 133 (I)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecu- tions
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

